

APPENDIX A

1. (Previously amended) A powder coating composition comprising:
 - at least one powdered polymer; and
 - a metal oxide, wherein the metal oxide has been size-reduced to a mean agglomerate particle size of less than about 25 microns.
2. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide has a mean particle size of less than about 15 microns.
3. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is selected from the group including silica, alumina, ceria, germania, titania, zirconia, zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.
4. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 3 wherein the metal oxide is fumed silica.
5. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.05 to about 3.0 wt%.
6. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 0.5 wt%.
7. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide includes at least one modifying agent.
8. (Previously amended) The powder coating composition of claim 7 wherein the modifying agent is selected from volatilizable hydrocarbons, ammonia, water, gases, and mixtures thereof.

9. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is treated with a hydrophobing agent.

10. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 9 wherein said hydrophobing agent is selected from the group consisting of: organopolysiloxanes, organosiloxanes, organosilazanes, organosilanes, halogenorganopolysiloxanes, halogenorganosiloxanes, halogenorganosilazanes, halogenorganosilanes, and mixtures thereof.

11. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 10 wherein said hydrophobing agent is a dimethyldichlorosilane, trimethoxysilane, hexamethyldisilazane, polydimethylsiloxane, and mixtures thereof.

12. (Previously amended) A powder coating composition comprising:
from about 99.5 to about 99.9 wt% at least one powdered polymer; and
from about 0.1 to about 0.5 wt% of the reaction product of fumed silica and hexamethyldisilazane, wherein the reaction product has been size-reduced to a mean agglomerate particle size of less than 10 microns.

13. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 12 wherein the fumed silica further includes a volatilizable agent.

14. (Previously amended) A powder coating composition comprising:
at least one powdered polymer; and
the non-deammoniated reaction product of at least one metal oxide and hexamethyldisilazane, wherein the reaction product has been size-reduced to a mean agglomerate particle size of less than about 25 microns.

15. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide has a BET surface area of between about 50 m²/g and about 400 m²/g.

16. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide has a mean particle size between about 0.05 μm to about 200 μm.

17. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide is selected from the group including alumina, ceria, germania, silica, titania, zirconia, zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.

18. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 17 wherein the metal oxide is silica.

19. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 18 wherein the metal oxide is fumed silica.

20. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide is reacted with from about 0.5 to about 40.0 wt% hexamethyldisilazane.

21. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the non-deammoniated reaction product of at least one metal oxide and hexamethyldisilazane is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 2.0 wt%.

22. (Original) The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the non-deammoniated reaction product of at least one metal oxide and hexamethyldisilazane is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 1.0 wt%.

23. (Previously amended) A powder coating composition comprising:

from about 98 to about 99.9 weight percent of at least one powdered polymer; and

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from about 0.1 to about 2.0 weight percent of a flattening agent that is non-deammoniated reaction product of from about 80.0 to about 99.9 weight percent fumed silica and from about 0.1 to about 20.0 weight percent hexamethyldisilazane, wherein the reaction product has been size-reduced to a mean agglomerate particle size of less than about 25 microns.